

Saint John the Baptist Parish

Pastor: Msgr. J. Christopher Maloney

Parochial Vicars: Rev. Daniel Ulloa, O.P., Rev. Mathew Biby

Associates: Deacon Martin J. Olivieri, Deacon Nicholas Ramoni

Retired Priest: Msgr. Walter A. Birkle

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www.sjbyonkers.org

August 15, 2021
Feast of the Assumption

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School
(914) 965-2356

Principal
Sister Maryalice Reamer, R.D.C.

Religious Education
(914) 965-2338

Director
Mrs. Angela Minchilli

Director of Music & Organist
John Stufano

Masses
Saturday Vigil:
5:00 p.m.

Sunday:
8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m.,
12:30 p.m.

Monday thru Friday:
8:30 a.m.

Saturday:
8:30 a.m.

**Sacrament of
Penance**
By appointment only

**Sacrament of
Marriage**
Make arrangements six months
prior to wedding

**Sacrament of
Baptism**
Every Sunday
after the 12:30 Mass

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, August 14, 2021

Vigil: The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

5:00 p.m. Catherine and Henry Tavernia

Sunday, August 15, 2021

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

8:30 a.m. Freddy Triarsi -- Birthday

10:30 a.m. Deceased members of the
Naryniecki and Koslowski
Families

12:30 p.m. John Concannon

Monday, August 16, 2021

Feast of St. Stephen of Hungary

8:30 a.m. Paul E. Ward

Tuesday, August 17, 2021

8:30 a.m. Tom King

Wednesday, August 18, 2021

8:30 a.m. Anthony Guido, Jr.

Thursday, August 19, 2021

Feast of St. John Eudes, Priest

8:30 a.m. Rory O'Flaherty

8:30 a.m. Annette Grosso

Friday, August 20, 2021

*Feast of Sts. Bernard, Abbot and Doctor of the
Church*

8:30 a.m. Salvatore Moschetta

Saturday, August 21, 2021

Feast of St. Pius X, Pope

8:30 a.m. Vincent Streva

Saturday, August 21, 2021

Vigil: Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

5:00 p.m. Maria Carmela Federico

Sunday, August 22, 2021

Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 a.m. Vincent Fontana

10:30 a.m. Florence and Vincent Scaturico

12:30 p.m. Nelson Leone

WEDDING BANNES

III. Johnny Lopez and Victoria Carrasquilla

WEEKLY PARISH CALENDAR

Saturday, August 21st

Penance Service – 4:00 p.m. -- Church

Rest in Peace: Let us pray for Rita De Sanctis, Immaculate Di Salvo and Catherine Meehan who were buried from our church this past week. Our prayers go out to their families and friends.

Renew and Rebuild Update: As this bulletin is being prepared, the repair and painting of the fence around the parking lot have been finished; work is also completed on the wall outside the parking lot along St. John's Avenue. The repair and repaving of the driveway behind the church was expected to finish by Saturday, August 14th. This week (Monday, August 16th to Friday, August 20th) the repair and repaving of the parking lot is expected to be undertaken. This, of course, will mean we will be closing the parking lot throughout this week. We regret the inconvenience but it is necessary if this important work is to be done properly. Once again, we thank all of those who have contributed (and continue to fulfill their pledges) to our Renew and Rebuild Capital Campaign. This work would not be possible without your sacrifice.

Helping Our A/C: During the summer months we try to keep the church as comfortable as we can. When we have very hot and humid days, that effort is only partially successful. Our church is large, and inevitably, the church doors are opened frequently as people enter and leave the church. We do try to keep our "outside" doors closed – except at the end of Mass, when many parishioners leave together. The doors leading to Yonkers Avenue are usually closed by the ushers, once most parishioners have left the church. The door leading out to St. John's Avenue from the chapel is usually not staffed by an usher – and some individuals insist on "hooking that door open" – an act of kindness that results in hot air coming into the chapel and the church – and effectively reducing the comfort level in the church. Con Edison gets quite enough from us, without our having to pay to "cool" St. John's Avenue. Please help!

S.J.B. ANNOUNCEMENTS

August 15, 2021

THE FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION OF OUR BLESSED VIRGIN MARY: Today, together with the whole Church, we honor Mary – not just because she was the mother of God, but because by her faith, courage, and total dedication to God’s will, she is the model for and mother of all believers. Today’s feast is also an important reminder of the innate goodness of the human person. Due in part to the influence of Greek philosophy, some Christian thinkers in the early centuries of the Church became increasingly uncomfortable with the physical side of our human nature. The body came to be regarded as an impediment to a truly holy life; only our spiritual dimension was worthy of our call to perfection as children of God. Unfortunately, we still often deal with aspects of that kind of thinking. Mary’s Assumption goes a long way toward rebalancing these tilted scales. Mary could not have lived out her spiritual commitment without the involvement of her physical body. Therefore her entire being, body and soul, was taken to heaven. Her body was fittingly spared the corruption of the grave. The God of Genesis declares that all creation is decidedly good. The summit of that creation is the human person. It is only right, therefore, that we celebrate a feast honoring Mary’s complete personhood. By so doing we are celebrating the goodness of all humanity.

SPECIAL SAINTS’ DAYS THIS WEEK

Monday, August 16th – St. Stephen of Hungary

Stephen was the first Christian king of Hungary – crowned in the year 1000. He was a beloved leader of his people who fostered the religious education of his subjects and who had a special love for the poor.

Thursday, August 19th – St. John Eudes

John was born in France in 1601; after his ordination, he spent many years giving missions and working to improve the training of future priests. He was instrumental in fostering devotion to the hearts of Jesus and Mary.

Friday, August 20th – St. Bernard

Today we celebrate one of the great Church leaders of the middle ages – St. Bernard of Clairvaux who seemed to be everywhere in the first half of the twelfth century – preaching crusades, reinvigorating monks and monasteries, advising popes, fighting heresy, writing theological and spiritual works. He remains a powerful inspiration to us because of his holiness of life.

Saturday, August 21st – Pope Pius X

Before he was elected Pope Pius X in 1903, Giuseppe Sarto served the Church as pastor, bishop, and Patriarch of Venice. He is remembered as a pastoral Pope who encouraged the frequent reception of Holy Communion, the lowering of the age for First Holy Communion and the daily reading of the Scripture. His motto was “Renew all things in Christ” and many of his reforms (as well as his personal holiness) helped to renew the Church in the twentieth century.

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (popularly known as “RCIA”) is the process designed by the Church for adults to receive the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and First Communion. The goals are to give a complete overview of Catholic teaching and practice and to begin to deepen a Christian spiritual life centered in the Sunday Scripture readings. The sacraments are received at the Easter Vigil Mass. **It is open to adults who:**

1) Have never been baptized; they would be preparing for all three sacraments. **2)** Were baptized in a non-Catholic Christian denomination who are interested in becoming Catholic; they would be preparing for Confirmation and First Communion. **3)** Were baptized Catholic but never received Confirmation and/or Communion; they would be preparing for the sacraments they have not yet received.

The 2021-2022 program at St. John’s which prepares adults (and older adolescents) to receive sacraments will begin in October. However, if you (or anyone you know) is interested in learning more about our program, please leave your name at the rectory 963-1486.

Practical Matters:

1. The **Weekly Collection** remains absolutely essential to our parish operations. Parishioners may contribute via WeShare (go to sjbyonkers.org –look for “online Donations” on the title page) or by bringing or mailing your contribution to our rectory office or dropping it into one of the baskets in church on Sunday.
2. Throughout the summer we will continue to have only one collection; if you have two (2) envelopes on any given Sunday, please put both in the one collection.
3. Our parish office is open Monday – Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
4. Please consult our parish website (www.sjbyonkers.org) for updates on parish events and activities.
5. Upon recommendation of the Archdiocese we will continue not filling holy water fonts; we will maintain the weekly sanitizing of the church (and sanitizing between Masses); there will be no “exchange of peace” and communion will be in the hand.
6. We continue to expect those who are not yet **vaccinated** to wear masks at all Masses and services.

Sacrament of Penance: Because of continuing Covid-19 restrictions we are still unable to use our confessionals for this sacrament. If you wish to receive the sacrament, please call the rectory to make an appointment. In addition on one Saturday of each month we will have a Penance Service at 4:00 p.m. in the church at which we will provide the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. **Our next service will be on Saturday, August 21st.**

Summer Mass Schedule: As we do every summer at St. John’s, our daily Mass schedule (Monday – Friday) will be changed slightly. Instead of having Mass at 8:00 a.m. and 12:00 noon, our one daily Mass will be at 8:30 a.m. This extends until Tuesday after Labor Day (September 7th).

Religious Education Program: 2021-2022 registration for **new families** for the St. John the Baptist Religious Education Program has begun. To obtain a New Family Registration Form (for your child): please email Stjohnthebaptistred@gmail.com. When completing the registration, a copy of your child’s Baptismal Certificate will be necessary; families must, of course, be members of our parish. Registration fees are included in the Registration materials.

A Call to Service: Our Religious Education Program at St. John’s is growing! Our Director of Religious Ed., Mrs. Angela Minchilli is looking for volunteers who would be willing to assist us in preparing our children as they grow in faith. You may be able to assist in several ways: **first** as catechists – the men and women who teach in one of our eight grades (Mrs. Minchilli will assist anyone who may need help in preparing for this); **second** as catechetical assistants who are there to help as teacher “aides”; **third** as volunteers who welcome students and parents, direct visitors to classrooms, and generally act as “trouble-shooters.” In most of these tasks, no experience is necessary – just a willingness to help. The men of the parish are especially invited to assist the program – and Seniors are most welcome! Just call Mrs. Minchilli at 914-965-2338.

Summer Reading: Every so often people ask about suggestions for spiritual or religious books for summer reading. Here a few recommendations. If you are interested in reading or re-reading some religious classics the following are still in print (and in paperback): Cardinal Newman’s Apologia Pro Vita Sua (the story of his conversion and a powerful defense of Catholic orthodoxy); Thomas Merton’s Seven Story Mountain (the story of his conversion while a student at Columbia); Fulton Sheen’s Life of Christ (the great preacher’s most beloved work); G.K. Chesterton’s Orthodoxy (a popular introduction to Christianity) and any book by C.S. Lewis. Dorothy Day’s The Long Loneliness is the story of the life of a remarkable woman who combined political and social activism with deep faith. More contemporary writers include Fr. Henri Nouwen and Peter Kreeft – most of their books are available in paperback in religious bookstores. Among writers of fiction, Evelyn Waugh, Graham Greene, Flannery O’Connor and Walker Percy all wrote on religious themes – as does John Hasler on a more popular level. A most interesting work is the Japanese novelist, Shusaku Endo’s “A Life of Jesus”. Happy reading!

Welcome to St. John’s: Registering in a parish is a declaration of your desire to be part of a Catholic community and a commitment to the life of the parish family. Being a registered parishioner makes things much easier when it is time for infant baptism, school registration, weddings, and when asked to be a baptismal or confirmation sponsor. We are often asked to provide affidavits for baptismal and confirmation sponsors. We can only do this if a person is a registered, active, and contributing member in our parish. Registration forms are available at the exits of the church and in the rectory.